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LB 743

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I just...I pretty much laid out how I felt about this bill all along. My issues right now...this amendment...I guess I rise in support of this amendment. I'm a little bit confused as to how this makes the bill better. And here's what I mean. You can...everybody has been talking about grasshoppers here today. You can cover a grasshopper with chocolate and start eating it. Eventually, you're going to know you're eating a grasshopper. I mean, this sounds...this is great, this sounds great. The problem is the underlying issue still remains. There's going to be fraud. There are going to be issues that this bill, I predict, will not cover. So I guess I'm really confused at this point. I would like to say...and I believe I'm for the Synowiecki amendment. But there are so many things...so many answers left for me, that I would just say that...that I would just stand back away from it, and probably not support the underlying bill. If Senator Bourne would like the remainder of my time. If not, I will just...thank you.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Friend. Senator Bourne, you have 3 minutes and 30 seconds.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Friend, members. Again, I rise in support of Senator Synowiecki's amendment. But I suggest to you that it does not do what he thinks. It's not narrow. It's...basically, what it says, by or on behalf of a nonprofit organization, described. Doesn't say certified. I discussed with Senator Brashear, who is not on the floor right now, but I discussed Senator Brashear, and he said that they have to be certified by the Internal Revenue Service. And then what happens is, if they lose, for some reason, their nonprofit status, they don't meet their criteria of either state or federal law, their certification goes away, but not their exemption under this amendment. Because it says, by or on behalf of a nonprofit organization, described...not certified, described in Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. And again, I was going to ask Senator Brashear if there were other organizations, other charitable organizations, that would...that are not necessarily 501's. And why should we exclude them? I think that would include trade associations, the Chamber of Commerce, various foundations. So again, I'm going to support